10/589760

IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 AUG 2006 ATTORNEY'S DOCKET HOS-76 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re the application of: |) | Group Art Unit: | |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Kikuo YAMADA |) | | |
| | ý | Examiner: Unknown | |
| Serial No. Unassigned |) | | |
| - |) | | |
| Filed: Concurrently |) | | |

For: CLEANING TOOL AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING CLEANING PART THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98. Please note the following particulars:

[NOTE: One only of items a, b, c, and d must be checked.]

- [X] a. The enclosed statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. \$1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.
- [] b. The enclosed statement is being filed after a first action on the merits but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311.

[] c. The enclosed statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, but before payment of the issue fee.

PETITION: It is requested that the information being submitted be considered. [NOTE: If box (c) is checked, the following two boxes must be checked.]

- [] PETITION FEE: A check for \$180.00 required by 37 CFR \$1.17(p), is enclosed.
- [] CERTIFICATION is attended to in box (e) below.
- [] d. The enclosed statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i), for placement in the file.
- [] e. Certification [Check one] [Certification is required only if box (b)(i) or box (c) is checked.]
 - [] I hereby certify that each item of information contained in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement,

or

[] I hereby certify that no item of information in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. \$1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

or

- [] Appropriate certification is attached.
- [X] f. If no check is enclosed and a fee is due in connection with this communication or if the check enclosed is insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or additional fee due in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-1980.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERMAN AND ASSOCIATES

Attorney for Applicants Robert L. Haines Reg. No. 35,533

SHERMAN AND ASSOCIATES

415 N. Alfred Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314 703-549-2282

HOS-76 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Kikuo YAMADA

Serial No.: Unassigned Group:

Filed: Concurrently Examiner:

FOR: CLEANING TOOL AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING CLEANING PART

THEREOF

Date: August 17, 2006

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the obligation under 37 C.F.R. \$1.56, Applicant would like to call the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached form SB-08A (2 pages).

Applicant notes that Japanese documents A-C, E and F, together with U.S. Pub. 2004/0016074, listed on form SB-08A are listed in the International Search Report in the subject application, a copy of which is included herewith. Documents D and G are discussed in the specification of the present

application at pages 1 and 2 thereof.

English language abstracts for the Japanese documents are provided herewith. In addition, Applicant notes that U.S. Patent 6,968,591 corresponds to JP2003-265389; U.S. Patent 6,813,801 corresponds to JP2002-369783; and U.S. Patent 6,329,308 corresponds to JP3208306. Applicant further notes that U.S. Pub. 2004/0016074 cited in the International Search Report is the U.S. publication of U.S. Patent 6,968,591.

Copies of the references listed on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08A and the International Search Report are provided for the Examiner's convenience.

Applicants are not aware at this time of any other prior art which could be considered to be relevant to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Actorney for Applicants Robert L. Haines

Reg. No. 35,533

SHERMAN & ASSOCIATES P.O. BOX 788 Alexandria, Virginia 22313 (703) 549-2282

Sheet 1

PTO/SB/08A (07-06)

Approved for use through 09/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

valid OMB control number. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to res

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| Complete if Known | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| Application Number | 10/589,760 | | | |
| Filing Date | 8/17/06 | | | |
| First Named Inventor | Kikuo Yamada | | | |
| Art Unit | 3723 | | | |
| Examiner Name | R.Chin | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | HOS_76 | | | |

| | | | | DOCUMENTS | Day Column Lines 14/hors |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)} | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| /R.C./ | | ^{US-} 6,968,591 | 01-29-2004 | Tanaka | |
| ŏ | | ^{US-} 6,813,801 | 10-17-2002 | Tanaka | |
| 7// | | ^{US-} 6,329,308 | 12-11-2001 | Kenmochi | |
| /R.C./ | | ^{US-} 2004/0016074 | 01-29-2004 | Tanaka | |
| <u> </u> | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| - | | US- | | | |
| | <u> </u> | US- | | | |
| | <u> </u> | US- | | | |
| | 1 | US- | | | |
| | + | US- | | | |
| | T^- | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | <u> </u> | US- | | | |
| | 1 | US- | | | |

| | | FOREIC | ON PATENT DOCU | MENTS | | |
|--------------------|--------------|---|---------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T-6 |
| | | Country Code ^{3 -} Number ^{4 -} Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | | Of Relevant Figures Appear | <u> </u> |
| /R.C./ | Α | JP2002-065541 | 03-05-2002 | Nissen Chemitec Corp | | <u> </u> |
| | В | JP10-328107 | 12-15-1998 | Uni-Charm Corp | | } - |
| | С | JP2003-039585 | 02-13-2003 | Uni-Charm Corp | | ₽- |
| | D | JP2004-298650 | 10-28-2004 | Uni-Charm Corp | | _ |
| \sqrt{Z} | E | JP2003-265389 | 09-24-2003 | Uni-Charm Corp | | Ķ |
| /B.C./ | F | JP2002-369783 | 12-24-2002 | Uni-Charm Corp | | <u> </u> |

| (Furnisa) | | Date | 04/07/0040 |
|-----------|----------------|------------|--------------|
| Examiner | | Considered | l 04/07/2010 |
| Signature | /Randall Chin/ | Considered | 0110172010 |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Uspto Patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Sheet

PTO/SB/08A (07-06)

Approved for use through 09/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

| nder the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to | Complete if Known | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------|--|
| Substitute for form 1449/PTO | Application Number | 10/589,760 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | Filing Date | 8/17/06 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | First Named Inventor | Kikuo Yamada | |
| | Art Unit | 3723 | |
| (Use as many sheets as necessary) | Examiner Name | R.Chin | |

Attorney Docket Number HOS 76

| Examiner | Cite | Document Number | U. S. PATENT DO Publication Date | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where |
|-----------|--------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Initiats* | No.1 | Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)} | MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | 1 | US- | | | |
| | | US- | 1 | | |
| <u> </u> | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | 1 | US- | | | |
| | † | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | 1 | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |

| | | FOREI | GN PATENT DOCL | JMENTS | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|---------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages | |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | | Or Relevant Figures Appear | T [®] |
| /R.C./ | G | JP3208306 | 05-27-1997 | Uni-Charm Corp | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | - |
| | | | | | | |

| Examiner Signature | /Pandall Chin/ | Date Considered | 04/07/2010 |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁸Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.